

Lansing Out—Wilson Still Runs

Department of State



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ROBERT LANSING

Who resigned as Secretary of State after being "at outs" with the President for a year.

THE resignation of Secretary of State Robert Lansing has been seized on by the political opponents of President Wilson as a basis of renewed attacks on the President. There is a Presidential campaign on this year.

The parties to the League of Nations intrigue do not seem particularly anxious to go before the people on that issue.

And there does not seem to be any other issue in sight on which to swing an election, so every possible

pretext or reason for assailing the President and his administration is grabbed and worked to the utmost.

The immediate cause of the break between the President and his chief cabinet officer seems rather trivial.

There may be a difference of opinion as to the intent on the part of Mr. Lansing in conferring informally with other members of the cabinet during the President's illness, though the President holds it to be without precedent, but Mr. Wilson himself has been such a precedent smasher since taking up the reins of office that it would seem that a little indulgence in the pastime by others might be tolerated; but the President did not see it that way.

The real facts are that Mr. Wilson's mind and Mr. Lansing's mind have not been in harmony for some time, and in regaining his health the President wants again to take control of affairs—full control, it might be said without much stretch of imagination—and wants someone with whom he can work harmoniously.

A search of the records of the publications that are shrieking now because of Mr. Lansing's practical dismissal will not disclose many expressions of admiration for or confidence in him in the past. Nor was he attacked as some other members of the cabinet were attacked.

Time was when the Secretary of State was one of the really big men of the nation—men like Seward, Blaine, Hay and others.

Mr. Lansing did not come in that category; Mr. Wilson did not seem to want one of that caliber, preferring practically to handle state affairs himself. After his break with Bryan, his first Secretary of State, the President took up with Lansing, a lawyer who had served in the State Department for over twenty years and was accustomed to taking and carrying out orders.

All seemed to go well until the President took Lansing to Paris. Nominally Mr. Lansing bore the same relationship to his government that Lloyd George and Clemenceau bore to theirs. But in England the King takes no such part in the real administration of affairs as is taken by the President of the United States. Nor does the President of France exercise the power exercised by our President.

The real work and authority rests in the prime ministers of those countries, and so Mr. Lansing found Lloyd George and Clemenceau real characters in the Peace Conference, while he was little more than a messenger boy to the American President who was there to speak and act for himself.

Mr. Wilson's disposition to play a lone hand often left his Secretary of State ignorant of vital facts, and Mr. Lansing was often humiliated when questioned by men of the press.

The bitterness of this can be readily understood by those who have interviewed Mr. Lansing, especially during war-time; for while he never gave out much (his training in the State Department prepared him for that) yet he did not mind having you understand that he knew much about what was going on, and with a knowing smile he would like to say "I can't talk about that today."

So when in Paris newspapermen would ask him about occurrences that had actually taken place and he had to confess total ignorance, it became impossible for him to keep out of a frame of mind that would lead him from the President.

Things went from that to the resignation.

Mr. Lansing's letters show that he wanted to resign, and perhaps a stronger man would have resigned long ago. On the other hand, full credit must be given to Mr. Lansing's statement that he did not want to do anything that would inconvenience the President while in ill health.

Mr. Lansing's place will be filled easily and affairs of state will go on as they have gone on for the past five years, with Mr. Wilson the real authority, the real power in the department, the real Secretary of State.

Good Old-Fashioned Talk

From a speech by Congressman Purnell, of Indiana

"GENTLEMEN, there is one thing we can not lose sight of, and that is that we are today facing in this country a deficit. Nothing is quite so sure as death and taxes, and with a \$3,000,000,000 deficit staring the already overburdened American taxpayer in the face, it is incumbent upon every member of this House to cut, to prune every one of these appropriation bills to the very bone. I am not willing to cripple any branch of this or any other governmental service, but I am willing to resolve all doubts in favor of economy and cut until it hurts wherever cuts can be made.

"If we are to have economy we must make a start; we must not pass an item because it seems small.

"We can not come in here before this House and strike \$3,000,000,000 from any one bill, but by taking off a few thousand here and a few hundred thousand there it is possible in the aggregate to cut \$3,000,000,000 and save a bond issue."

A Polish Library



(C) Keystone

THIS picture impresses us with the fact that when it comes to artistic work the Polish people are well in the foreground. This is the interior of Main Library of the University of Prague, Poland. It is one of the oldest in Europe.

Epigrams From China

A grave and majestic outside is, as it were, the palace of the soul.

You may draw a tiger's skin, not his bones; you may know a man's face, but not his mind.

It is not as safe opening the mouth as keeping it shut. A hut of reeds with mirth therein is better than a palace with grief.

The stag and the tiger do not stroll together.

We do not cook rice by babbling.

A man's conversation is the mirror of his heart.

There are two good men; one dead, the other unborn.

Unusual Facts About Our Presidents

OF THE 27 men who have been President of the United States, 14 were sons of farmers, 3 of clergymen, 2 of lawyers, 3 of merchants, 1 iron manufacturer, 1 tanner, 1 constable, 1 statesman and 1 jurist.

Farmers' sons evidently have a better chance of occupying the White House than any others.

The last farmer's son to attain the Presidency was Benjamin F. Harrison.

The fathers of Presidents Arthur, Cleveland and Wilson were preachers.

Fifteen Presidents were of English descent: 1 Welsh, 3 Scotch, 6 Scotch-Irish, and 2 Dutch.

Ten of the Presidents were not college graduates. They were: Washington, Jackson, Van Buren, Taylor, Fillmore, Lincoln, Johnson, Cleveland and McKinley.

Nineteen Presidents were lawyers at the time of their election. Washington and William Henry Harrison were the only farmers ever elected.

The religious inclinations of the Chief Executives varied considerably. Eight were Episcopalians, 4 Unitarians, 7 Presbyterians, 2 Reformed Dutch, 4 Methodists, 1 Disciple and 1 Liberal. Garfield belonged to the Disciples, Jackson was the Liberal, Van Buren and Roosevelt the Reformed Dutch, and the two Adams, Fillmore and Taft the Unitarians. Some authorities claim that Andrew Johnson was not a member of any church, but that his wife belonged to the Methodist congregation.

Eight Presidents were born in Virginia—Washington, Jefferson, Madison, Monroe, William Henry Harrison, Tyler, Taylor and Wilson.

Six Presidents were Ohioans by birth—Grant, Hayes, Garfield, Benjamin Harrison, McKinley and Taft.

Buchanan and Cleveland were the only bachelors

elected President. Cleveland married during his first term, but Buchanan stuck it out for life.

Cleveland was christened Stephen Grover, Grant was named Hiram Ulysses, and Wilson, Thomas Woodrow.

Lincoln, Garfield and McKinley were assassinated while in office.

Dick Lawrence, a house painter, tried to kill Andrew Jackson at the Capitol in 1835. The pistol, however, missed fire. After his retirement from the Presidency, Roosevelt was painfully shot at Milwaukee.

William Henry Harrison was the oldest President and Roosevelt the youngest. The former was 68 and the latter 42 at the time they assumed office. Harrison broke all records as to the number of children. He was the father of six boys and four girls. Rutherford B. Hayes ran him a close second with seven sons and one daughter.

Washington, Madison, Jackson and Polk were never blessed with any children.

John Adams, Thomas Jefferson and James Monroe died on the Fourth of July.

"Friday" is Woodrow Wilson's lucky day, and "13" his lucky number. There are 13 letters in the name Woodrow Wilson.

Many summertime sea coast resorts are destroyed by gales of the sea, yet they are rebuilt on the same location regardless of nature's lesson.

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